

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the metal wire includes a shape memory material.
3. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 2, wherein the shape memory material comprises a titanium alloy.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, further comprising a plurality of polymer wires spirally extending along the first direction.
6. (Original) The stent of claim 5, further comprising a wire comprising a shape memory material extending along the first direction.
7. (Original) The stent of claim 5, further comprising a plurality of metal wires spirally extending along the second direction.
8. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the polymer wire comprises polyethylene.
9. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the polymer wire comprises high density polyethylene.

10. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 9, wherein the polymer wire is treated with a plasma.

11. (Previously presented) An expandable stent, comprising:  
one or more polymer wires extending spirally in a first direction about a longitudinal axis of the expandable stent, wherein the polymer wire has a tensile strength of about 1.2 GPa; and  
one or more metal wires extending spirally in a second direction about the longitudinal axis, the second direction being counter to the first direction, wherein the one or more metal wires intersect the one or more polymer wires at a plurality of intersection points, the one or more metal wires only intersecting the one or more polymer wires such that the one or more metal wires do not form a closed current loop.

12. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An expandable stent of claim 9, comprising:  
one or more polymer wires extending spirally in a first direction about a longitudinal axis of the expandable stent, wherein the one or more polymer wires comprise high density polyethylene is treated with a plasma; and  
one or more metal wires extending spirally in a second direction about the longitudinal axis, the second direction being counter to the first direction, wherein the one or more metal wires intersect the one or more polymer wires at a plurality of intersection points, the one or more metal wires only intersecting the one or more polymer wires such that the one or more metal wires do not form a closed current loop.

13. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 12, wherein the plasma comprises a cold oxygen plasma.

14. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 12, wherein at least a portion of the polymer wire is coated with a plastic.

15. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the polymer wire forms a first angle with the longitudinal axis and the metal wire forms a second angle with the longitudinal axis, the first being equal to the second.

16. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the polymer wire forms a first angle with the longitudinal axis and the metal wire forms a second angle with the longitudinal axis, the first angle being different than the second angle.

17. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 16, wherein the first angle is less than 35 degrees.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 16, wherein the second angle is between about 35 degrees and about 90 degrees.

20. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 16, wherein the second angle is between about 60 degrees and about 85 degrees.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the metal wire is visible on a magnetic resonance image.

23. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, further comprising a bioabsorbable material including a drug on the surface of the expandable stent.

24. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 23, wherein the surface is an inner surface of the expandable stent.

25. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 23, wherein the surface is an outer surface of the expandable stent.

26. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the expandable stent is self expandable.

27.-- 40 (Canceled)

41. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An expandable stent of claim 5, comprising:  
a plurality of polymer wires spirally extending along a first direction about a longitudinal axis of the expandable stent, wherein the plurality of polymer wires includes an inner wire positioned on an inner surface of the expandable stent and an outer wire positioned on an outer surface of the expandable stent; and  
one or more metal wires extending spirally in a second direction about the longitudinal axis, the second direction being counter to the first direction, wherein the one or more metal wires intersect the plurality of polymer wires at a plurality of intersection points, the one or more metal wires only intersecting the one or more polymer wires such that the one or more metal wires do not form a closed current loop.

42. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 41, wherein the inner wire is fused to the outer wire.

43. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 5, wherein the plurality of polymer wires comprises four polymer wires.

44. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 5, wherein the plurality of polymer wires comprises six polymer wires.

45. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 5, wherein the plurality of polymer wires comprises eight polymer wires.

46. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the polymer wire includes an aperture and the metal wire is positioned within the aperture.

47. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the expandable stent is balloon expandable.

48. (Previously presented) The expandable stent of claim 76, wherein the polymer wire is arranged such that substantially no plastic deformation of the polymer wire occurs during expansion of the expandable stent and the metal wire is arranged to axially strengthen the expandable stent.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the metal wire is visible on a magnetic resonance image.

51. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the expandable stent is self expandable.

52. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the expandable stent is balloon expandable.

53. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the metal wire comprises titanium.

54. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the metal wire comprises a titanium alloy.

55. (Cancelled)

56. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the polymer wire comprises polyethylene.

57. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the polymer wire comprises high density polyethylene.

58. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 57, wherein the polymer is treated with a plasma.

59. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 58, wherein at least a portion of the polymer wire is coated with a plastic.

60. (Canceled)

61. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 48, wherein the polymer wire comprises a biodegradable polymer.

62. (Original) The expandable stent of claim 61, further comprising a drug in the biodegradable polymer.

63.-75. (Canceled)

76. (Currently amended) An expandable stent, comprising:

one or more polymer wires extending spirally in a first direction about a longitudinal axis of the expandable stent; and

one or more metal wires extending spirally in a second direction about the longitudinal axis, the second direction being counter to the first direction, wherein the one or more metal wires intersect the one or more polymer wires at a plurality of intersection points, the one or more metal wires only intersecting the one or more polymer wires such that the

Applicant : Jan Weber  
Serial No. : 10/762,815  
Filed : January 22, 2004  
Page : 8 of 9

Attorney's Docket No.: 10527-0531001 / 03-376

one or more metal wires do not form a closed current loop, wherein the one or more metal wires have an oval cross-sectional area.